

GVWR Required on Forms for Pickup Trucks

Implementation Date: July 1, 2012

New Policy

Effective July 1, 2012, the gross vehicle weight rating (GVWR) is required for all pickup trucks when the application includes any of the following forms:

- Verification of Vehicle (REG 31).
- Application for Registration of New Vehicle (REG 397).
- Report of Sale—Used Vehicle (REG 51).

California Vehicle Code (CVC) §471 defines a pickup truck as a motor truck with a manufacturer's GVWR of less than 11,500 pounds, an unladen weight of less than 8,001 pounds, and an open box-type bed not exceeding nine feet in length.

Procedures

Registration applications for vehicles with the body type model (BTM) of pickup (PK), club cab pickup (PC), 3-door extended cab pickup (3C), or 4-door extended cab pickup (4C), with a REG 31, REG 397, or REG 51 must include the GVWR. These forms have been revised to include a box for the GVWR and **must** be used starting July 1, 2012.

IMPORTANT: Vehicles with a GVWR of 11,500 lbs. or more **do not** have a BTM of PK, PC, 3C, or 4C. The correct BTM must be on the REG 31, REG 397, or REG 51, to prevent the application being returned. Refer to *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §30.010 to determine the correct BTM.

Follow the chart below for additional information regarding the acceptance of these forms:

<i>When submitting a...</i>	<i>that was completed...</i>
REG 31, REG 397, or REG 51,	prior to July 1, 2012, and the form does not have a box for the GVWR: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GVWR must be written in the REMARKS section of the REG 31 by the vehicle verifier. • Indicate the GVWR in the GVWR box on the REG 397 or REG 51, if applicable, or on a Statement of Facts (REG 256).
	July 1, 2012, or later: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The GVWR must be written in GVWR box or the REMARKS section of the REG 31 by the vehicle verifier. • Write the GVWR in the GVWR box on the REG 397 or REG 51. • The application will be returned if the GVWR is not indicated on the REG 31, REG 397, or REG 51.

Body Type Corrections

Continue to follow current procedures in the *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §22.055 to correct the BTM on used vehicles.

Procedures for Verification of a Vehicle

The GVWR **must** be on the REG 31 (REV 1/2012) in the GVWR box or in the REMARKS section. If completing the REMARKS section, write “GVWR” and the weight. Refer to the Federal Certification Label (see attached sample) to determine the GVWR. Be sure to collect the GVWR, **not** the gross axle weight rating (GAWR), as both are present on the Federal Certification Label.

NOTE: If the GVWR is 11,500 pounds or more and no modifications have been made (utility box added, etc.), the REG 31 must indicate a BTM of VA or other applicable BTM as defined in *Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual* §30.010.

Procedures for Missing Federal Certification Label

If the Federal Certification Label is missing and the unladen weight is **over** 6,000 pounds, the applicant must complete a REG 256 stating the GVWR and how they determined the GVWR. If the applicant states that the GVWR is **11,499 pounds or less**, they must obtain documentation from the vehicle manufacturer confirming the GVWR.

Background

The GVWR is used to determine if a truck meets the CVC §471 definition of a pickup truck. Some vehicles not meeting CVC §471 were being reported as pickup trucks on the Report of Sale and have been incorrectly registered. These heavier models include, but are not limited to, Chevy Silverado, Ford F Series, and Dodge Ram heavy duty trucks.

California law enforcement agencies reported that customers are being issued citations (some exceeding \$8,000) because their vehicles do not meet the statutory definition of a pickup BTM.

References

California Vehicle Code §471

Vehicle Industry Registration Procedures Manual §§6.010, 8.010, 22.055, 30.010

VIN 2001-14 Pickups

VIN 2011-41 Changing the Vehicle BTM and/or Weight

VIN 2011-42 Correcting a Vehicle Description Error

Sample of a Federal Certification Label showing the location of GVWR:

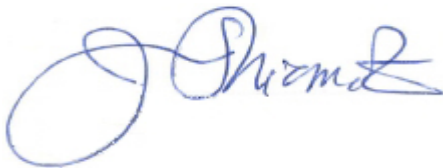
MFD. BY FORD MOTOR CO. IN U.S.A.			
DATE: 11/00		GVWR: 11500LB/ 5216KG	
FRONT GAWR: 5200LB		REAR GAWR: 8250LB	
2358KG	WITH	3742KG	WITH
LT235 /85R16E	TIRES	LT235 /85R16E	TIRES
16X6. OK	RIMS	16X6. OK	RIMS
AT 448 kPa/65 PSI COLD		AT 414 kPa/60 PSI COLD	
DUAL			
THIS VEHICLE CONFORMS TO ALL APPLICABLE FEDERAL MOTOR VEHICLE SAFETY STANDARDS IN EFFECT ON THE DATE OF MANUFACTURE SHOWN ABOVE.			
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX		50823	

Distribution

Notification that this memo is available online, at www.dmv.ca.gov under Publications was made via California DMV's Automated E-mail Alert System in June 2012.

Contact

Call the DMV Customer Communications Section, at (916) 657-6560 for further clarification of this memo. Upon request, this document can be produced in Braille or large print.



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